WALLPAPER INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Before You Start
Traditional hand-printed art wallpapers handle and perform differently than pre-pasted vinyl wallpapers. Becoming familiar with these differences will aid installation by homeowners and professional paperhangers alike.

Art wallpaper printed using the silkscreen process will include some irregularities – this is a natural result of hand printing and are not defects.

If you are working with a paperhanger, it’s a good idea to review all measurements before you place an order. When you receive your order, verify that it is complete and you have the quantities required to complete your project. Please inspect our order carefully – no adjustments will be made after 30 days of receipt of your order.

Q&A
My order arrived damaged, what should I do?
Contact us immediately. Keep the shipping carton, packing material and damaged goods. We will work with you to replace your order and will instruct you on how to handle the damaged goods.

I didn’t order enough wallpaper to finish my project, what should I do?
Contact us. We will work with you to supply additional paper for you to finish your project.

I ordered too much wallpaper, what should I do?
We do not accept returns on over-orders. Store the extra wallpaper; it could come in handy if you need to repair damage in the future.

Can I hang wallpaper in the kitchen or bathroom?
Humidity and wash-ability are considerations for kitchens and bathrooms. Our wallpaper comes uncoated. If desired, a clear water-based coating could be brushed or rolled on after the wallpaper is installed. Test the clear coat on a scrap of wallpaper to verify that it does not react with the inks on the wallpaper and that the appearance is acceptable. Different coatings have different sheens, from flat to glossy, and may cause colors to darken or change.

Wall and Ceiling Preparation
Repair any defects and prepare the wall and ceiling surfaces to be as smooth and clean as possible for proper adhesion. Prepare the surface with a 2-step process; primer followed by a prep-coat. First prime the walls and ceiling with alkyd primer to seal the surface. Allow primer to dry and cover with a prep-coat (acrylic or latex wallcovering primer) to promote adhesion. Size is a traditional coating for bare plaster walls. A lining paper may be hung first to absorb excess moisture and to help the wallpaper dry quickly.

Trimming
Wallpaper should be trimmed dry on a table using a straight edge and single-edge razor blade. Razor blades should be changed frequently before they dull and tear the paper. Borders and ornaments are to be trimmed to the edge of the pattern – a hobby knife can be useful when following an irregular outline. For fills, make note of the information on the selvedge before trimming. The UP mark denotes the direction the paper should be hung on the wall. The JOIN mark indicates where the pattern matches from sheet to sheet across the wall – this is especially important for patterns with a drop match. Some paperhangers lightly pencil this information on the back of the wallpaper before trimming. Use the TRIM marks as a guide and trim to the inside edge of the trim line. Our wallpaper is designed for a butt seam. An overlapping seam can be made by trimming only one side of the roll. Some paperhangers prefer to hang the wallpaper and then double-cut on the wall to make their seam.

Selecting an Adhesive
Our wallpaper requires pasting. A high-moisture adhesive is recommended, such as wheat paste or cellulose. Clear and clay-based pre-mixed adhesives may also be used. Some paperhangers will mix different adhesives to get a combination of their individual properties. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions. Some adhesives require thinning before use. Take the time to test the compatibility of the adhesive with the wallpaper. We recommend hanging a test strip to judge performance. Some adhesives may cause staining or react with inks.

Pasting
Use a short nap roller to apply a thin, even layer of paste. A pasting machine may also be used. After pasting, “book” the paper by folding the pasted sides together. Take care not to crease the paper. Allow the paper to sit for 10 minutes. This time is needed for the paper to absorb the paste, expand and fully relax. If edge curling occurs, re-paste or mist with water and place the paper in a plastic bag to completely relax. If the edge curl persists or the paper will not fully relax, switch from a high-moisture/low tack adhesive to a low-moisture/high tack adhesive or try a mix of the two types of adhesives.

Hanging
Use a soft touch during installation. Use a soft natural-bristle brush to smooth the wallpaper. Work from the center towards the edges to expel air bubbles trapped under the paper. Allow the adhesive to set for 10 minutes before rolling seams. Use a wooden seam roller to lightly roll seams. A plastic sweep should only rarely be used on hand printed wallpaper.

Remove All Paste Residue
It is important to remove all paste from the surface of the wallpaper to prevent staining. Wipe off paste with a damp sponge. Rinse the sponge and change the water often. Follow by washing the entire surface of the wall or ceiling with a clean sponge and fresh water. Dry the wall and ceiling with a clean towel. Avoid excessive rubbing when washing or drying the wall – this could abrade the surface of the wallpaper.

How to Find an Installer
The Wallcovering Installers Association is a national organization of independent paperhangers dedicated to superior craftsmanship in the hanging of every type of wallpaper. Contact the WIA for help finding an installer experienced in hanging art wallpaper:
www.wallcoveringinstallers.org
800.254.6477
Wallcovering Installers Association
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